



*Licensing Board*  
**TOWN OF WATERTOWN**  
**ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**  
**149 Main Street**  
**Watertown, Massachusetts 02472**

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BOARD MEMBERS  
DONNA B. DOUCETTE  
GEORGE B. NEWMAN

ALTERNATE MEMBER  
SANDRA KASABIAN HOFFMAN

Minutes October 15, 2015

**AGENDA**

1. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: September 17, 2015 Approved 2-0
2. SPECIAL LICENSES (details below)
  1. Hellenic Cultural Center, 25 Bigelow Ave.  
Baptism Reception November 15, 2015 Approved 2-0  
Tigrean Community Gathering November 21, 2015 Approved 2-0  
Rindge Alumni Dinner November 23, 2015 Approved 2-0  
Wedding November 28, 2015 Approved 2-0
  2. Donohue's 87 Bigelow Ave.  
10<sup>th</sup> Annual Road Race November 26, 2015 Approved 2-0
  3. The Hibernian Club of Watertown, Inc. 151 Watertown St.  
Extension of Hours New Year's Eve December 31, 2015 Approved 2-0
  4. La Casa de Pedro, Inc. 343 Arsenal Street  
Extension of Hours New Year's Eve December 31, 2015 Approved 2-0
3. La Casa de Pedro, Inc.  
343 Arsenal Street  
Pledge of License Approved 2-0
4. SDD Group, Inc. d/b/a Subway  
59 Mt. Auburn Street  
New Common Victualler License
5. Erdene, LLC d/b/a Erdene's Cuisine  
550 Arsenal Street  
New Common Vitualler Withdrawn 2-0
6. New Salt, Inc. d/b/a La Bodega by Salts  
21 Nichols Ave.  
New Common Victualler License Approved 2-0  
Transfer All Alcohol License Approved 2-0
7. Burnham-Manning Post #1105 VFW of US, Inc.  
295 Arsenal Street  
Show Cause Continued to November 19, 2015
8. Comments by Board Clerk and Police Department

7:30 to 9:20

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Donna B. Doucette, Chairman

Present: Donna B. Doucette, George Newman

1. Minutes from the September 17, 2015 hearing were approved 2-0 by the Licensing Board.
2. The following Special Licenses and Permits were approved by the licensing board 2-0:
  1. Hellenic Cultural Center, 25 Bigelow Ave.

Baptism Reception November 15, 2015	Approved 2-0
Tigrean Community Gathering November 21, 2015	Approved 2-0
Rindge Alumni Dinner November 23, 2015	Approved 2-0
Wedding November 28, 2015	Approved 2-0
  2. Donohue's 87 Bigelow Ave.

10 <sup>th</sup> Annual Road Race November 26, 2015	Approved 2-0
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  3. The Hibernian Club of Watertown, Inc. 151 Watertown St.

Extension of Hours New Year's Eve December 31, 2015	Approved 2-0
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  4. La Casa de Pedro, Inc. 343 Arsenal Street

Extension of Hours New Year's Eve December 31, 2015	Approved 2-0
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3. La Casa de Pedro, Inc.  
d/b/a La Casa de Pedro  
343 Arsenal Street  
Watertown, MA 02472

The Watertown Licensing Board met to consider the application of La Casa de Pedro, Inc. d/b/a La Casa de Pedro for approval of a pledge of its all alcohol common victualler license exercised at 343 Arsenal Street.

Pedro Alarcon, president, appeared in support of the application. Mr. Alarcon explained that he will be opening a new restaurant in Boston's Seaport district and that the lender has requested a pledge of the Watertown license in connection with the construction loan for the Boston premises.

Sergeant Grady stated that the Police Department had no objection to the pledge of the license.

The Licensing Board voted unanimously to approve a pledge of the license to Leader Bank.

4. SDD Group, Inc.  
d/b/a Subway  
83 Kendall Court  
Bedford, MA 01730

The Watertown Licensing Board met to consider the application of SDD Group, Inc. d/b/a Subway for a common victualler license to be exercised at 59 Mt. Auburn Street.

Ranganarayan Narasimhan, president, appeared in support of the application. Mr. Narasimhan stated that the applicant is buying the existing business that operated at the subject property. He operates five other Subway restaurant locations: in Waltham (2), Newton (1), Boston (1) and Avon (1). He expects to be at the Watertown site approximately 30-40 hours per week because it is a new operation.

The Health Department reported that the applicant must comply with department requirements for a food service operation permit, including completion of the food establishment plan review process and pre-operation inspection.

Sergeant Grady stated that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the requested license, provided that the conditions stated in items 1 through 3 below were imposed.

The Licensing Board voted unanimously to grant the requested license, subject to the following conditions:

1. The hours of operation shall not exceed 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight Thursday through Saturday, and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Sunday.
2. The seating will be for 16 persons, as shown on the plan submitted ("Floor Plan" as shown on drawing entitled "Subway 59 Mt. Auburn Street Watertown, MA 02472" sheet A1.1 by A&E National, Inc., dated 3/12/2014).
3. No alcoholic beverages shall be allowed on the licensed premises.
4. The applicant shall comply with Health Department requirements for a food service operation permit, including completion of the food establishment plan review process and pre-operation inspection.
5. Erdene, LLC  
d/b/a Erdene's Cuisine  
88A Thurston Road  
Newton, MA 02464

The Watertown Licensing Board met to consider the application of Erdene, LLC d/b/a Erdene's Cuisine for a common victualler license to be exercised at 550 Arsenal Street in the Watertown Mall. At that time, the Board acknowledged receipt of a letter from the applicant requesting leave to withdraw the application. The Board voted unanimously to grant leave to withdraw.

6. New Salts, Inc.  
d/b/a La Bodega by Salts  
61 Prichard Avenue, No. 1  
Somerville, MA 02144

The Watertown Licensing Board met to consider the application of New Salts, Inc. d/b/a La Bodega by Salts for approval of a transfer to it from MJLK, Inc. d/b/a 21 Nickels of the all alcohol common victualler license issued for exercise at 21 Nichols Avenue, and for a new common victualler license, both to be exercised at 21 Nichols Avenue.

Gabriel Bremer, the proposed manager and husband of the president of the applicant, appeared in support of the application together with Attorney Paul Rufo, counsel for the current license holder. Mr. Bremer explained that the applicant will be buying the subject property to relocate and re-start a restaurant that was operating in Cambridge, MA. There was a flood at the Cambridge site approximately one and a half years ago, and the applicant lost its lease. Mr. Bremer requested that the Board consider issuing a 7-day alcohol license given the restaurant's 10-year operating history in Cambridge without any alcohol incidents.

Mr. Bremer stated that the applicant will be performing some cosmetic renovations at the site, and it is hoped that the restaurant will open by January or February of 2016. He noted that the premises would be modified to be more restaurant oriented, with a food focus.

In response to a question from the Board, Mr. Bremer stated that he and his wife will renew TIPS certification, and that the Cambridge restaurant held a beer and wine license. He noted that the food to alcohol ratio at the Cambridge site was approximately 70/30.

Board member Newman stated that he would not favor a 7-day license at the site until the applicant had been able to show a track record of service in Watertown. Chairman Doucette added that nothing would prevent the applicant from making a future request for an exception to the Board's regulation imposing a 1-year waiting period for a 7-day license.

The Health Department reported that the applicant must comply with department requirements for a food service operation permit, including completion of the food establishment plan review process and pre-operation inspection.

Sgt. Grady stated that the Police Department had no objection to approval of the proposed transfer, provided that the conditions stated in items 1 and 3 – 6 below were imposed, and that the department had no objection to the granting of a common victualler license, provided that the conditions stated in items 2, 3 and 6 below were imposed.

The Licensing Board voted unanimously to approve the transfer, and to grant the new common victualler license, subject to the following conditions:

1. The hours of operation for alcohol service shall be 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday.
2. The hours of operation for the common victualler license shall be 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight on Sunday.
3. The licensed premises will include an area of 2,160 square feet, with a seating capacity of 90, as shown on the plan submitted (sketch plan entitled "Floor Plan 21 Nichols Avenue Watertown MA," filed in the office of the Town Clerk on September 11, 2015).
4. The manager and all servers shall attend and successfully complete an alcohol awareness training program (e.g., TIPS) within 90 days of hire or expiration of certification.
5. Copies of all alcohol awareness training program certificates shall be provided to the Town Clerk's office.
6. No alcohol shall be served on Sundays.
7. Burnham-Manning Post #1105 VFW of U.S., Inc.  
295 Arsenal Street  
Watertown, MA 02472

The Watertown Licensing Board has continued the show cause status hearing on the matter of compliance with Chapter 138, Section 1 of the General Laws, which requires a club licensee to file with the local licensing authorities and the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission annually, within

three months after January first, a list of the names and residences of its officers, together with the amount of salary or compensation received by each employee engaged in the handling or selling of alcoholic beverages. The hearing had previously been continued from September 17, 2015.

On October 15, Attorney Ken Leitner appeared on behalf of the licensee and requested a continuance until the next Board meeting because only two Board members were present. He stated that he had prepared and filed some of the required documentation, including the personal information form for interim post commander Derek Mayerhoffer, and had electronically requested a certificate of good standing from the Department of Revenue. He explained that the Post does not have an accountant and that he needs to consult with an accountant and contact the Department of Revenue directly to address the certificate of good standing.

Board member Newman stated his concern regarding a lack of cohesive leadership at the Post, and asked what was happening to address that issue. Attorney Leitner responded that the Post has a number of bartenders, but needs to build a leadership team.

The Licensing Board voted to continue the hearing until November 19, 2015 at 7:15 p.m. in the Philip Pane Hearing Room, Administration Building, 149 Main Street, Watertown, MA.